

THE ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTER

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ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS COMPLETED

Project reviews completed from August 15 to September 15 are listed below. These projects have been screened through the internal environmental review process for potential impacts on wetlands, threatened and endangered species, and cultural and archaeological resources, etc. Through the review process it was determined that environmental impacts have been kept to a minimum and mitigated as necessary, that they do not meet the criteria for significant actions as defined in the environmental review process, and may proceed. All of these projects are in compliance with the Endangered Species Protection Act, Natural Areas Preservation Act, Interagency Wetlands Policy Act and cultural resource statutes.

• Andalusia Waterfowl Refuge

0900696 - This project involves the repair of the levee, which was compromised by Mississippi River flood waters. A hole approximately 20' wide and 10' deep will be fixed. Project was submitted for review on 7-24-08.

Hidden Springs State Forest

0900708 - This project involves the construction of 5-10 small ephemeral wetlands. The wetlands will be less than 1/4 acre each with depths not exceeding 3 feet to benefit amphibian fauna as well as other non target species. Project was submitted for review on 7-25-08.

Peoria Island North

0900075 - This project involves the construction of a 21 acre island. The island will be in the vicinity of McClugage Bridge on US Highway 24/150. Project was submitted for review on 7-3-08.

Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park

0900964 - This project involves the replacement of the park entrance sign. Project was submitted for review on 7-31-08.

Union County State Fish & Wildlife Area

0801386 - This project involves the construction of low levees and water control structures in existing agricultural fields on the PHA. Approximately 300 acres of existing ag. fields will be converted to moist soil management with some flooded row crops. Project was submitted for review on 8-8-07.

• Moraine Hills State Park

0900010 - This project involves relocating the snowmobile access route in McHenry Dam Day Use Area. This route is used by riders to bypass the Wm. G. Stratton Dam spillway as they travel on the frozen Fox River. Project was submitted for review on 6-24-08.

• Moraine Hills State Park

0811508 - This project involves reconstruction of existing seawall and construction of new seawall at McHenry Dam. Walkways, fishing platforms, and floating docks will also be replaced Project was submitted for review on 5-23-08.

• Walnut Point State Park

0811067 - This project involves replacement of the existing 50' stairway on 1.75 mile Whispering Pines Nature Trail, and construction of a new 100' stairway directly across from the existing stairway. The project will also include correcting drainage and erosion problems on the trail by installing drains, culverts, or aggregate material in problem areas. Project was submitted for review on 4-16-08.

• Copperhead Hollow State Wildlife Area

0810056 - This project involves the construction of four separate hunter parking lots at Copperhead Hollow SWA. These lots will accommodate 6 autos each. The fourth and main lot will accommodate approximately 20 autos. Project was submitted for review on 3-11-08.

• Fort Massac State Park

0901143 - This project involves the construction of a new hiking trail at Fort Massac within the day use area of the park. The trail will be 6' wide and 5200' in length and have an aggregate surface. Project was submitted for review on 8-7-08.

• Wayne Fitzgerrell State Park

0900108 - This project involves the construction of a new segment of bike trail at Wayne Fitzgerrell SP. The trail will be 10' wide and approximately 2900' in length. This segment will have an aggregate surface. Project was submitted for review on 7-7-08.

• S.A. Forbes State Park

0901939 - This project involves the construction of 10 vernal ponds at S.A. Forbes SP. The vernal ponds will be constructed on former agricultural fields, average 18" in depth and approximately 1/20 acre in size, and benefit reptiles and amphibians. Project was submitted for review on 9-2-08.

Questions and Comments

All questions and comments about the environmental review process or this newsletter should be directed to:

Illinois Department of Natural Resources Division of Ecosystems and Environment 1 Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271

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Email: DNR.EcoCAT@illinois.gov

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